

MARVEL
COMICS



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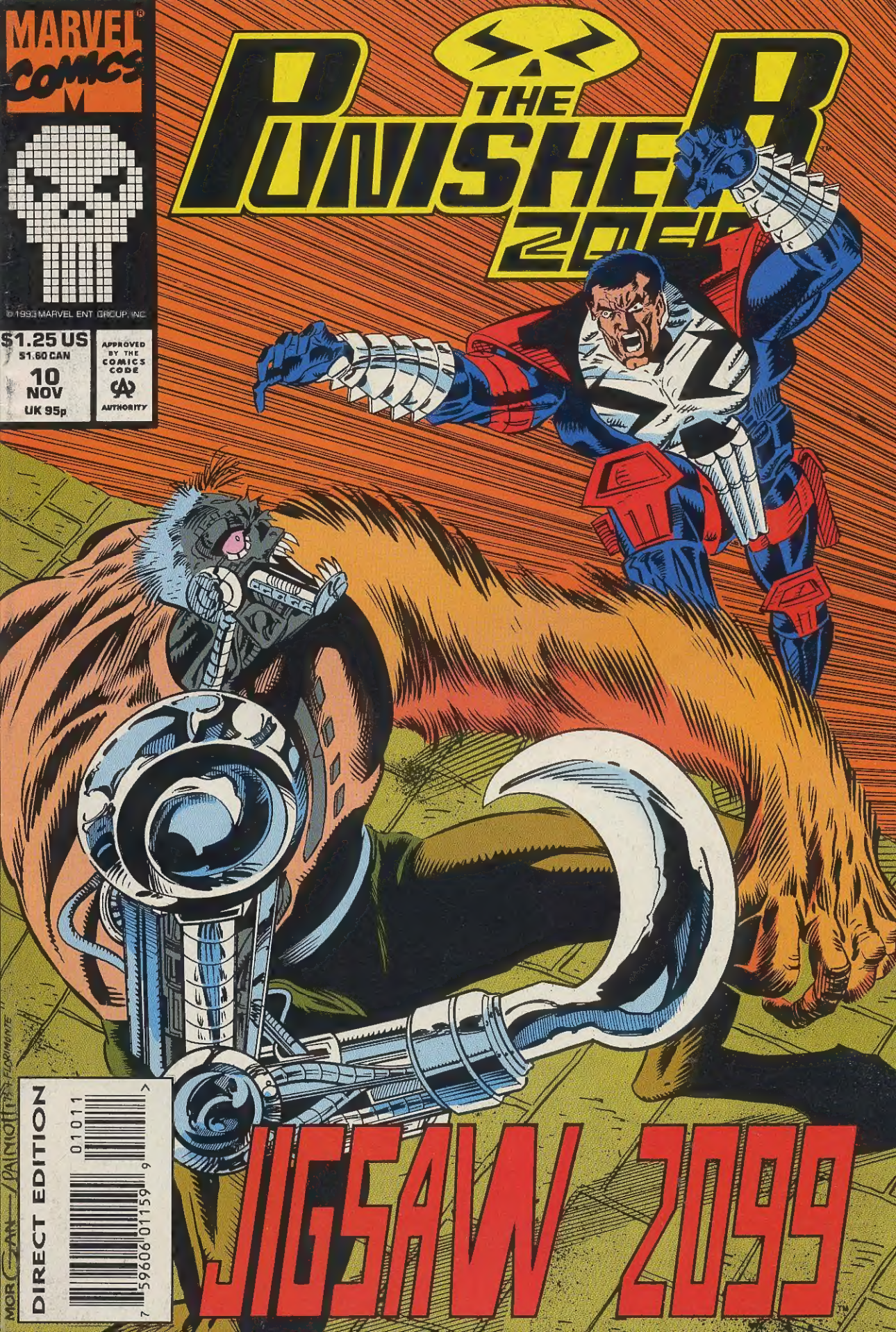
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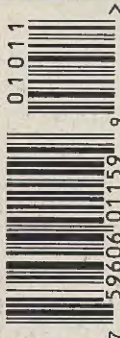
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

THE PUNISHER 2099



JIGSAW 2099

DIRECT EDITION



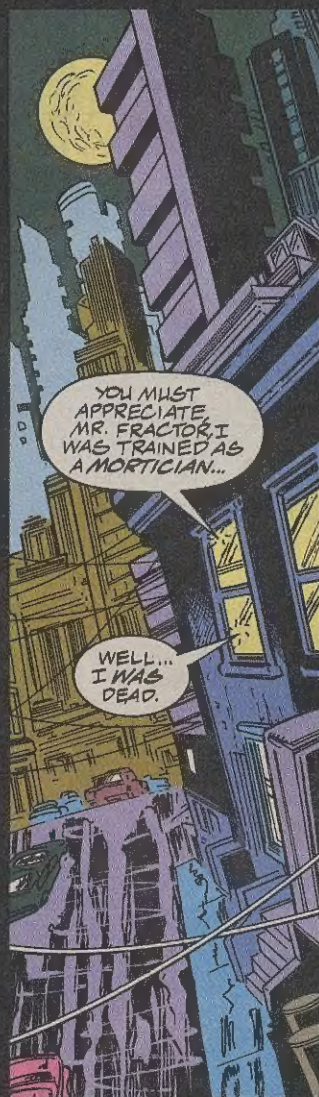
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7 59606 01159 9

HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD-FASHIONED PUNISHMENT ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT JAKE GALLOWES... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE PUBLIC EYE POLICE FORCE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

THE PUNISHER 2099



YOU MUST APPRECIATE MR. FRACTOR, I WAS TRAINED AS A MORTICIAN...

WELL... I WAS DEAD.

QUITE... BUT IT'S ONLY MY SUBSEQUENT CHANGE OF CAREER TO A VETERINARY SURGEON THAT ENABLED ME TO WORK WITH LIVING TISSUE.

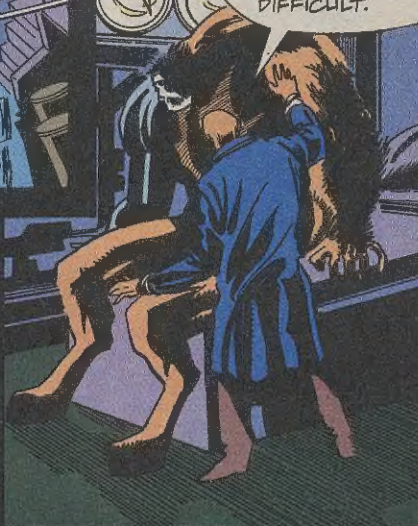
YEAH-- WELL EVERYTHING SEEMS TO WORK.

THE POINT I'M TRYING TO MAKE IS-- I LACK A CERTAIN FINESSE IN THE COSMETIC DEPARTMENT.



WELL I NEVER WAS A BEAUTY QUEEN.

YOU MUST ALSO APPRECIATE, YOU WERE IN A BAD WAY WHEN I DISCOVERED YOU... AND GETTING HOLD OF NEW LIMBS WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.



I REPLACED DAMAGED FACIAL TISSUE AS BEST I COULD... AND USING MY VETERINARY CONTACTS OBTAINED A GORILLA'S ARM...

... BUT I'M AFRAID THE OTHER ONE IS TOTALLY ROBOTIC. I ALSO INSTALLED A DEGEN'S AIR SAC RESERVOIR ON YOUR BACK AS YOU REQUESTED.



WHAT ABOUT THE CUSTOM HYPER-DRIVER? MY LAST ONE MALFUNCTIONED.

WHEN THIS PUNISHER PUNCHED YOUR HYPER-DRIVER INTO YOUR CHEST, IT TORE APART EVERY LIMB AND ORGAN...

ONLY YOUR CYBORG HEART, LUNGS, LIVER AND BRAIN KEPT YOU ALIVE--TECHNICALLY SPEAKING THAT IS.

NOT EXACTLY...

THAT'S UNLIKELY TO HAPPEN WITH THIS NEW VERSION...

THERE'S A VISIBLE GAUGE WHICH RELEASES THE ENERGY IN STAGES--AS YOU REQUIRE IT. IT'S PROGRAMMED ONLY TO YOUR TOUCH.

SO QUIT STALLING, DOC... TURN ON THE LIGHTS... LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR HANDIWORK!

NO--THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.

IF I DON'T LIKE WHAT I SEE, I'LL RIP YOUR HEAD OFF!

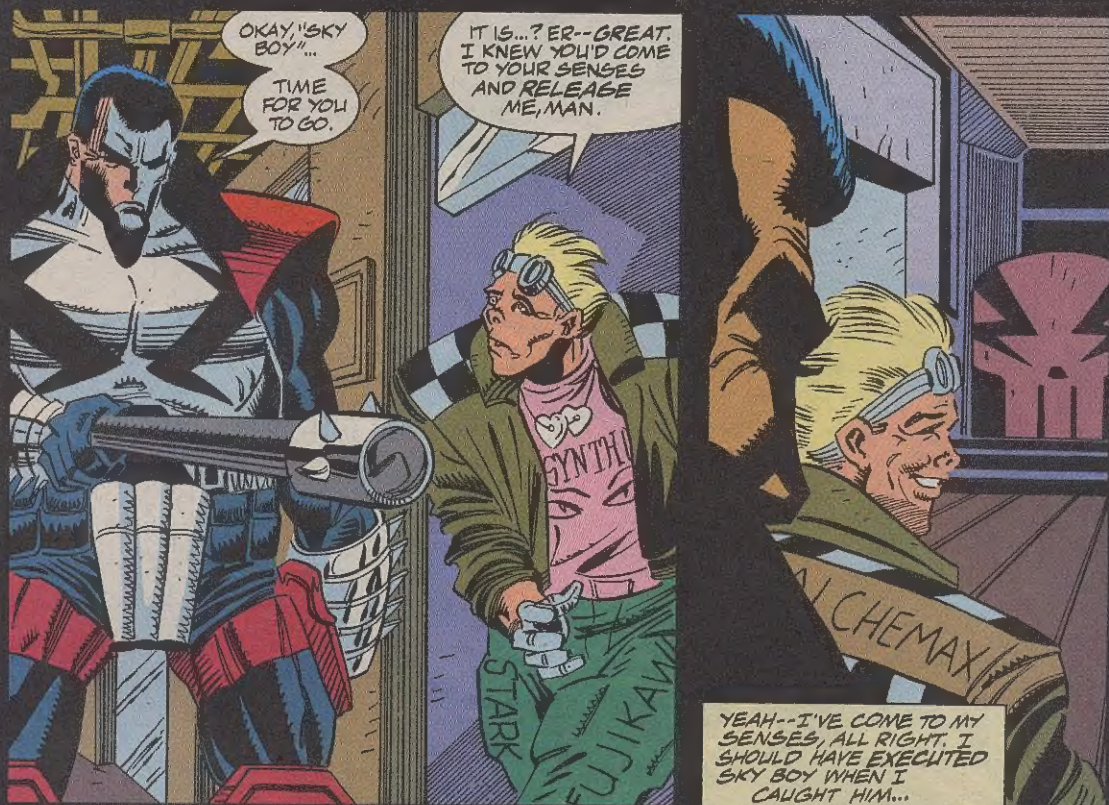
PLEASE... JUST REMEMBER... I-I DID MY BEST!

WELL...OKAY.. BUT THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FIRST...



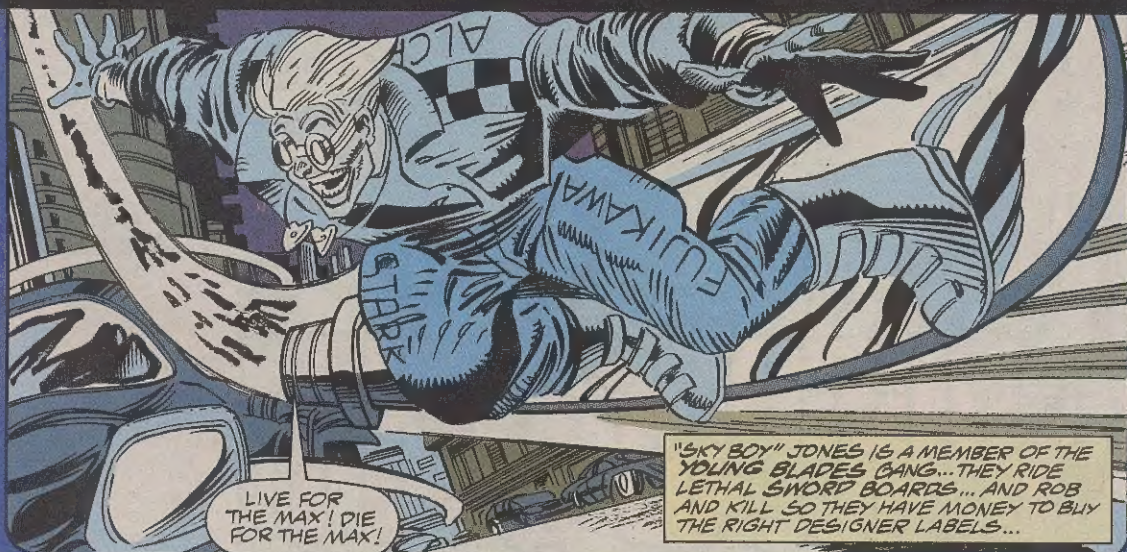
WISGAT 2099

FAT MILLS &
TONY SKINNER
WRITERS
TOM MORGAN
PENCILER
JIMMY PALMIOTTI
INKER
KEN LOPEZ
LETTERER
LAUGHLIN & ROUSSOS
COLORISTS
JOEY CAVALIERI
SURGEON
TOM DEFALCO
SURGEON GENERAL



BUT I HAD TO CHECK HIS AGE BEFORE SENDING HIM TO THE CHAIR... AND SEE IF THERE WERE ANY OTHER EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES...

THERE WEREN'T.



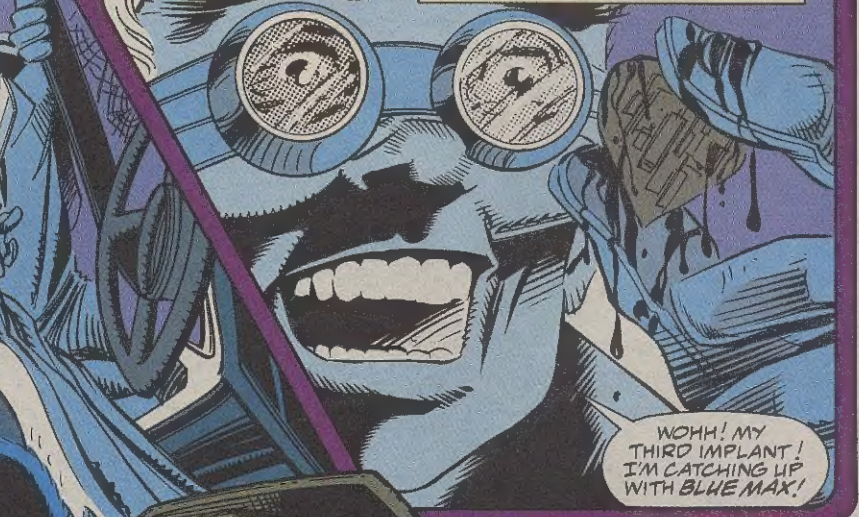


HE
AMBUSHED
A CAR...

...AND CUT OUT THE
DRIVER'S CREDIT I.D.
IMPLANT.

THESE MURDEROUS
KIDS COLLECT THEM.

AND BECAUSE IT'S OUTSIDE
THE PUBLIC EYE'S JURISDICTION...
NO ONE LIFTS A FINGER...



WOHH! MY
THIRD IMPLANT!
I'M CATCHING UP
WITH BLUE MAX!



NO ONE EXCEPT
THE PUNISHER!

WHATEVER THE GANG'S REASONS...WHATEVER THEIR EXCUSES...THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER...

...PUNISHMENT.

HEY--THIS ISN'T THE WAY I CAME IN...

IS THIS ANOTHER EXIT...?

YEP. THE LAST EXIT.

WHAT THE SHOCK IS THAT?

MOLECULAR DISINTEGRATOR.

GRAHAM "SKY BOY" JONES... YOU HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING THREE CITIZENS...

... AND I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO DEATH!

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY BEFORE SENTENCE IS CARRIED OUT?

SYNTH

BULLPEN BULLETINS



HARRAS-MENT

So — what do you do when two of Marvel's greatest super teams just happen to be celebrating their thirtieth anniversary at the same time?

Well, if you're editor-in-chief **Tom DeFalco**, my beloved boss and mentor, you say "Why not do a crossover? It should be pretty easy — since you write **THE AVENGERS** and last time I checked, you're still editing **THE X-MEN**. Hey — it might be fun. You never know."

Fun. Right. But, y'know, I've learned over the years you just don't argue with Tommy D once he has an idea in his head — they kinda get stuck in there.

So, how do you do a story with roughly thirty characters, a couple of villains, and assorted supporting cast without going hopelessly insane?

Well, if you're me you call on two X-MEN writers, **Fabian Nicieza** and **Scott "Scooter" Lobdell** and you sit down for a massive story conference and figure out how to make this thing work.

You look for connections between the teams — old friendships, family ties, even an old grudge or two. You look at this large cast of people and y'know, before too long a story is staring you right in the face, a story that clearly shows the natural link between Marvel's band of unhappy mutants and its assemblage of mightiest heroes.

And y'know, it was kinda fun.

Bob

— Bob Harras

MIGHTY MARVEL
FAN PHONE (516)352-1212
IT'S THE COST OF A REGULAR CALL FROM ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES AND WON'T EXCEED 35 CENTS.
YOUR INSIDE CONNECTION AT MARVEL

Absolutely no work was done in the office this past July 29. That was the day all the Assistant Editors at Marvel took off for an out-of-office retreat, and, as every Marveloid suspects, the assistants are the only ones here who really do any work! So while the editors stayed behind, struggling to keep their heads above water, the assistants spent the day doing just the opposite, as they dove into the chlorinated waters of the Wilson Drive Recreational Facility — or, as it's perhaps better known, **Ralph Macchio's house**. Ralph was kind enough to donate his facilities for the event, and fortunately, Ralph's mom didn't mind!

Most of the assistants were shuttled to Ralph's suburban New Jersey hacienda in two minivans driven by near-head honcho **Mark Gruenwald** and affable assistant **Hector Collozo**. Others followed in a car behind Hector, and had a hard time keeping up with the Hectator. Apparently Hector still hasn't gotten the hang of this whole red light/green light thing yet!

The purpose of the summit was for the assistants to kick back and relax, get to know each other a little better, and to have a chance to hobnob with executive editors **Mark Gruenwald**, **Carl Potts**, and **Bob Budiansky**, as well as The Chief himself, **Tom DeFalco**. **Glenn Greenberg** proudly boasted, "I spent more time talking to Tom DeFalco that day than I have in my thirteen months on staff!" Glenn noted that "Tom gave us a lot of insight into why things happen" such as why **Thunderstrike** wields a triangular hammer, while **Thor's** is rectangular.

Apparently everyone grew closer to Tom that day. **James "Professor" Felder**, commented, "I felt like I was part of a movie called *Inside Tom DeFalco!*" And **Karl Bollers** came away

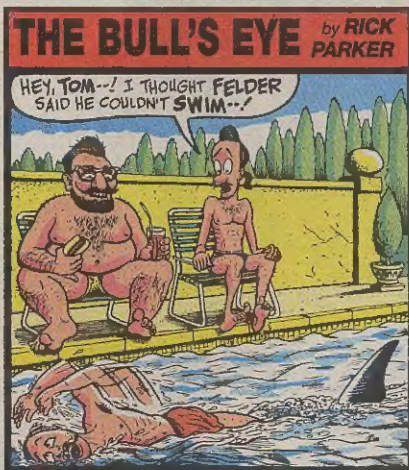
from the event "feeling like Tom and I were long-lost blood brothers!"

While Tom was sharing his wisdom on why there should never be another Assistant Editors Month, exec editor **Mark G.** was offering up his own insights on newer and more creative ways to jump into the pool. **Mark Bernardo** was the big winner in the long jump contest, with his unique feet first diving style. **Mark B.** had sustained an injury during the previous contest, the inner tube race, but still came through in the diving competition like the one true Sub-Mariner.

Also earning high marks were the action-packed chicken fights fought in Ralph's pool, though no actual chickens were injured during the festivities. The Bathing Bantling Bantams to beat included the teams of **Tim Tuohy/Lynaire Brust**, and **Jaye Gardner/Paula Foye**.

Former assistant editor **Mike Lackey**, who received his promotion to associate ed just prior to the retreat, said his function at the summit was to serve as a liaison between the associate and the assistant editors, but we all know Mike will take any excuse to get out of the office. Mike felt that "Not much was accomplished," at the summit, "but we did have a lot of pizza."

Lia Pelosi said the summit gave her an opportunity to "see who the real wise guys at Marvel are. And once we saw everyone in their bathing suits, we got a chance to really see who the wise guys are!" When asked if they would like to do another summit, **Lia** responded, "Give me a year to recover!" A year to recover, **Lia**? But the retreat was supposed to be a day to recover from the year-long grind. As **The Man** once said, "Sheesh!"



HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **AVENGERS: TERMINATRIX** OBJECTIVE #3 OF 4: Revelation revealed!
- ☐ **BARBIE FASHION #35:** Barbie models fashions!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL: MAN WITHOUT FEAR #2 OF 5:** First battle with Elektra!
- ☐ **DEATHLOK #29:** Infinity Crusade Crossover!
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #59:** Trapped with Kyliant!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #382:** Or should that be Fantastic Three?
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER/BLAZE: SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #16:** Zarathos returns!
- ☐ **HELLSTORM #8:** Hellstorm in Heaven?
- ☐ **HOKUM & HEX #3:** The wrath of Wrath!

- ☐ **THE INFINITY CRUSADE #6 OF 6:** Pray for the Goddess!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #298:** Ultimo returns!
- ☐ **LAWDOG #7:** Flesh-eating zombies!
- ☐ **MARVEL COMICS #142:** Wolverine's jungle adventure!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT: HEAVY HITTERS 2 #1:** Take another swing!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT OCTOBER 1993:** All free! All great!
- ☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE MASTER EDITION #38:** Ravage, Goddess, and Zarathos!
- ☐ **METEOR MAN #4 OF 6:** Night Thrasher guest stars!
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #56:** Seth the Immortal stops by!
- ☐ **NEW WARRIORS #41:** Firelord and Super-Nova!
- ☐ **PUNISHER 2099 #10:** What doesn't kill you ...
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #60:**

- ☐ Frank's dog is snatched!
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #68:** Thor is crazy!
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #208:** To bury Tombstone!
- ☐ **SPIDER-MAN UNLIMITED #3:** Dr. Octopus is armed and dangerous!
- ☐ **STRANGE COMBAT TALES #2 OF 4:** Aliens in the Civil War!
- ☐ **WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWOORLD #15:** Jake treks to London!
- ☐ **THOR #468:** Silver Surfer guest stars!
- ☐ **VENOM: THE MADNESS #1 OF 3:** Eddie falls in love!
- ☐ **WAR MAN #1 OF 2:** He's grim, he's gritty — he's Grif!
- ☐ **X-FORCE #28:** Someone dies!
- ☐ **X-MEN CLASSIC #89:** Rogue is de-powered!
- ☐ **X-MEN GHOST RIDER GN #1:** Reprinting the Midnight/Mutant melee!

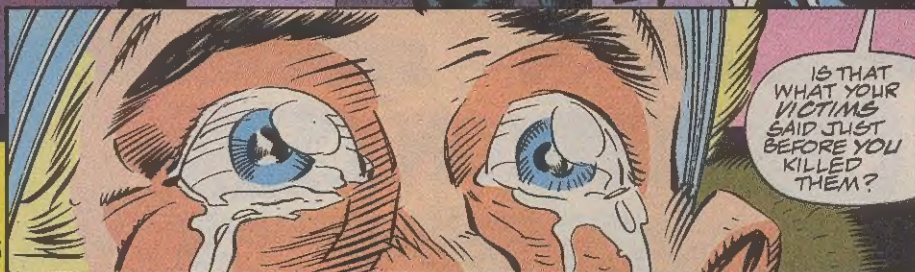
MARVEL U.K. TITLES!

- ☐ **BLACK AXE #8:** Just the axe, ma'am!
- ☐ **DEATH'S HEAD 2 #12:** Chanel knowledge!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS #11:** Swimming the Tides of Time!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS HOLIDAY SPECIAL:** 'Nuff said!
- ☐ **GENETIX #2 OF 6:** It's in the genes!
- ☐ **IMMORTALIS #3 OF 4:** Huntin' vampires!
- ☐ **THE INCOMPLETE DEATH'S HEAD #11 OF 12:** Battle with Iron Man 3339!
- ☐ **KILLPOWER: THE EARLY YEARS #3 OF 4:** The Punisher baby-sits!
- ☐ **PLASMER #1 OF 4:** She'll defy even Captain America!

NO! NO! PLEASE,
MISTER... HAVE SOME
MERCY... YOU CAN'T
JUST KILL ME IN
COLD BLOOD.


YOU SAY
THAT SO
WELL...

...MAYBE YOU'VE
HEARD THE LINE
A FEW TIMES
YOURSELF?



IS THAT
WHAT YOUR
VICTIMS
SAID JUST
BEFORE YOU
KILLED
THEM?






JAKE...JAKE...I SAW THE
POWER DRAIN ON THE HOUSE
MANAGEMENT GRAPH. I
KNEW YOU WERE USING
THE ZAPPER AGAIN.




JAKE...
IT'S THE
SIXTH ONE
THIS WEEK.
I'M WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.
WORRIED.



JAKE--I WANT
YOU TO SEE A
PSYCHIATRIST...


NO! NO
PSYCHIATRIST...

LAST
ONE I KNEW
GOT TURNED
TO GLASS.




ANOTHER
CRIMINAL
PUNISHED,
MATT...

AND SOONER
OR LATER I'LL
GET MY HANDS ON
THE REST OF THE
YOUNG BLADES
GANG...



WELL--
YOUR
FAMILY
PRIEST
THEN.

I'VE GOT
NO FAMILY.
AND I DON'T
NEED A
PRIEST.



ALL I NEED
IS THE MAN
RESPONSIBLE
FOR KERRY'S
DEATH.



FEARMASTER...
YOU GOT TO
TAKE ME
BACK...!

WELL, WELL, MY SIMIAN FRIEND HAS
RETURNED FROM THE DEAD...LOOKING
MORE LIKE A JIGSAW THAN A
HUMAN BEING...

LEAVE US,
DOREEN.

I'M AFRAID THERE'S NO ROOM
FOR YOU IN MY ORGANIZATION.
I CAN'T AFFORD TO
ASSOCIATE WITH FAILURES.

GIVE ME A
SECOND
CHANCE... I'VE
NEVER
FAILED YOU
BEFORE.

WELL...THERE
IS ONE WAY
TO REDEEM
YOURSELF
WITH ME...

OFFICIALLY THE
PUNISHER IS BEING
TAKEN CARE OF BY
OTHERS... BUT I'D
PREFER TO FINISH
WHAT I STARTED...

FOR POLITICAL REASONS,
I CAN'T BE SEEN TO MOVE
AGAINST HIM, HOWEVER...

IF YOU--AS
A ROGUE
ELEMENT--
CHOSE TO
CONTINUE
YOUR
VENDETTA...
THEN I
CAN'T BE
HELD RE-
SPONSIBLE.

I'LL DO IT!
I'LL DO IT!

GOOD...I'LL HOLD YOU
THE INFORMATION ON
HOW TO LURE THE
PUNISHER INTO THE
OPEN...

NOW...
WE'LL HAVE TO
MAKE THIS
CONVINCING...

I'LL HAVE TO
FORCIBLY
EJECT YOU...

I'D LIKE TO TRY
OUT MY NEW
HAND--AS I'M
SURE YOU'D LIKE
TO TRY OUT YOUR
NEW BODY...

THIS HAND
STILL HAS
ALL THE
POWER OF
THE
LAST...

PLUS A
FORTY
TON
PUNCH.

JUST
STAND STILL,
WILL YOU?

IT'LL BE A
PLEASURE,
SIR.





REVEREND MCADAM! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!

ARE YOU GOING TO LET ME IN, JAKE? I'VE BEEN YOUR FAMILY'S COUNSELOR FOR YEARS...

GO AWAY. MY FAMILY'S DEAD!

AND YOU MUST BE FEELING VERY UPSET ABOUT THAT. POWERLESS. IMPOTENT. AS THOUGH YOU CAN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

BUT I CAN HELP YOU, JAKE.

WHAT'S THE REV GETTING AT?

COME IN I'M LISTENING.



OKAY, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, REVEREND MCADAM?

YOU'RE EXACTLY THE KIND OF MAN I'M LOOKING FOR, JAKE... NO ROOTS, STRONG CHARACTER... WELL BUILT... AND A THORITE BACKGROUND.

OKAY... NOW
WE KNOW
ALL ABOUT
ME... WHAT
IS IT YOU'RE
SELLING?

I'M NOT
SELLING
ANYTHING.
I'M
OFFERING
YOU THE
CHANCE...

TO GO TO
VALHALLA...
SKY CITY...
LOOK!

LOOK, I DON'T
WANT TO BE RUDE--
BUT I'LL HAVE TO
ASK YOU TO
LEAVE...

I DON'T NEED
THIS
RELIGIOUS
GARBAGE
RIGHT NOW...

NO, NO, YOU MIS-
UNDERSTAND! I
MEAN EXACTLY
WHAT I SAY... IMAGINE
HAVING THE POWERS
OF A
GOD, JAKE!

GOODBYE!

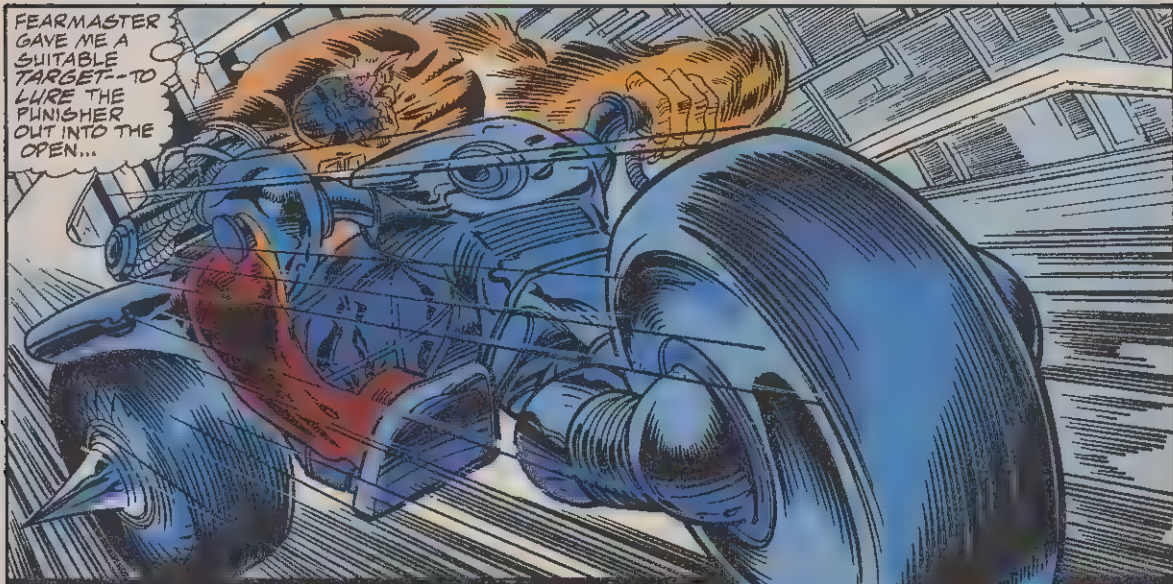
**The New
ASGARDIAN**
BRINGING YOU
THE GOOD NEWS
FROM THOR

WHERE
YOU CAN
LIVE AND
BECOME A
GOD!

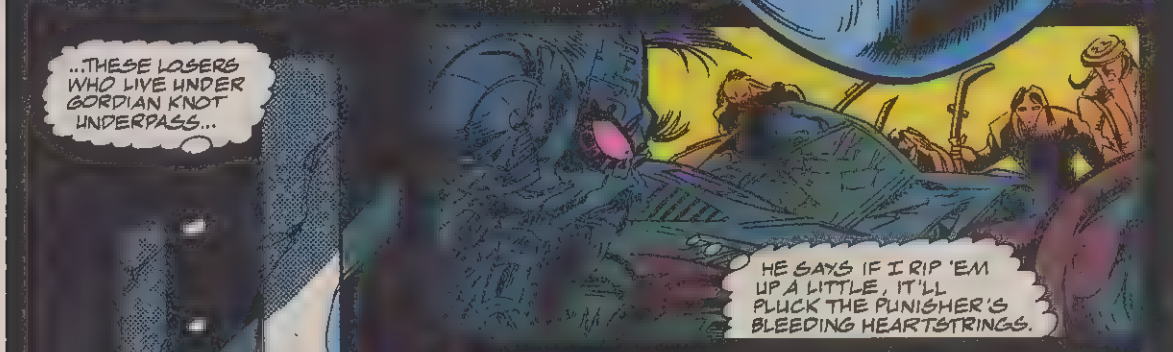
WELL, LET ME
JUST LEAVE YOU
A COPY OF "THE
HAMMER" AND THIS
WEEK'S "NEW
ASGARDIAN"...

WEIRD... REV. MCADAM'S
NEVER ACTED LIKE
THAT BEFORE..

...I WONDER IF THERE'S
SOMETHING BEHIND
WHAT HE'S SAYING...?

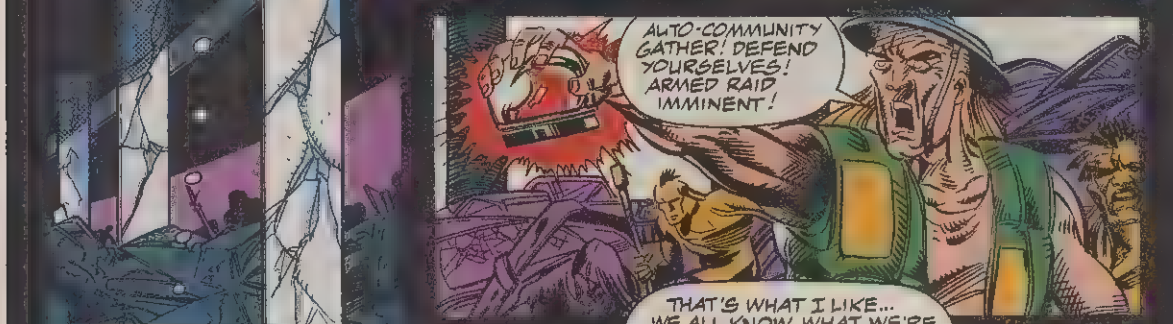


FEARMASTER
GAVE ME A
SUITABLE
TARGET--TO
LURE THE
PUNISHER
OUT INTO THE
OPEN...

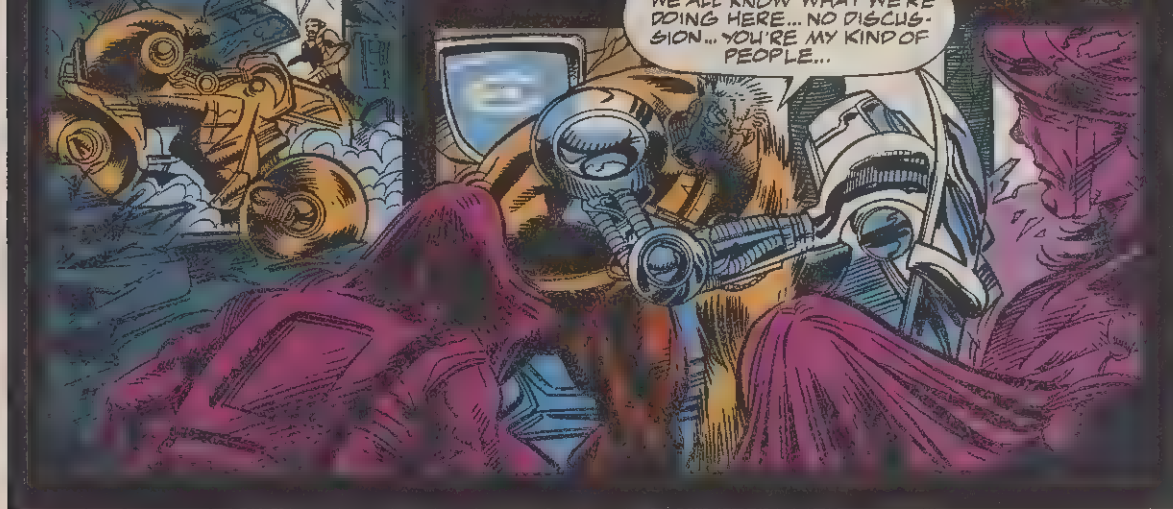


..THESE LOSERS
WHO LIVE UNDER
GORDIAN KNOT
UNDERPASS...

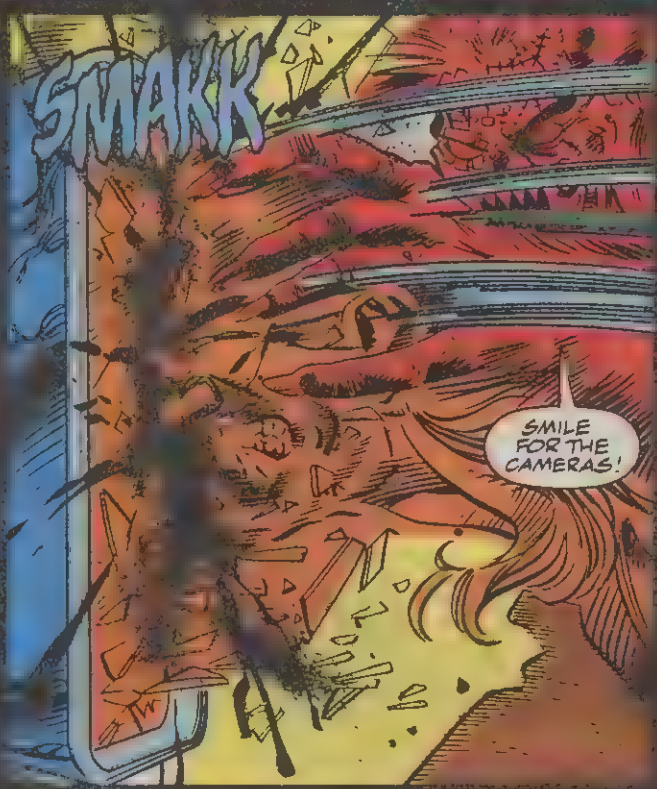
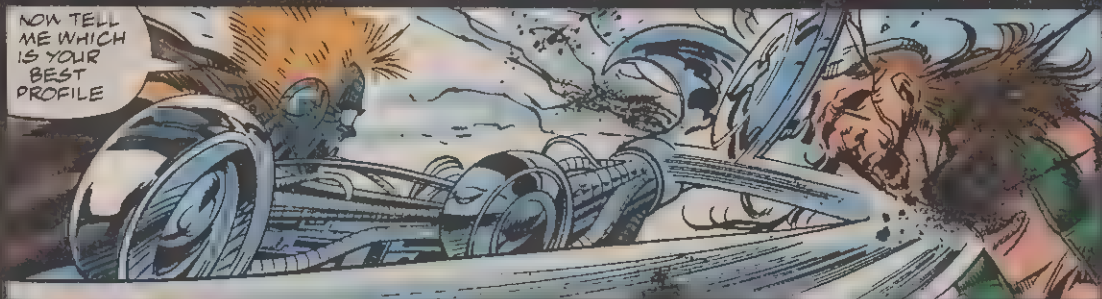
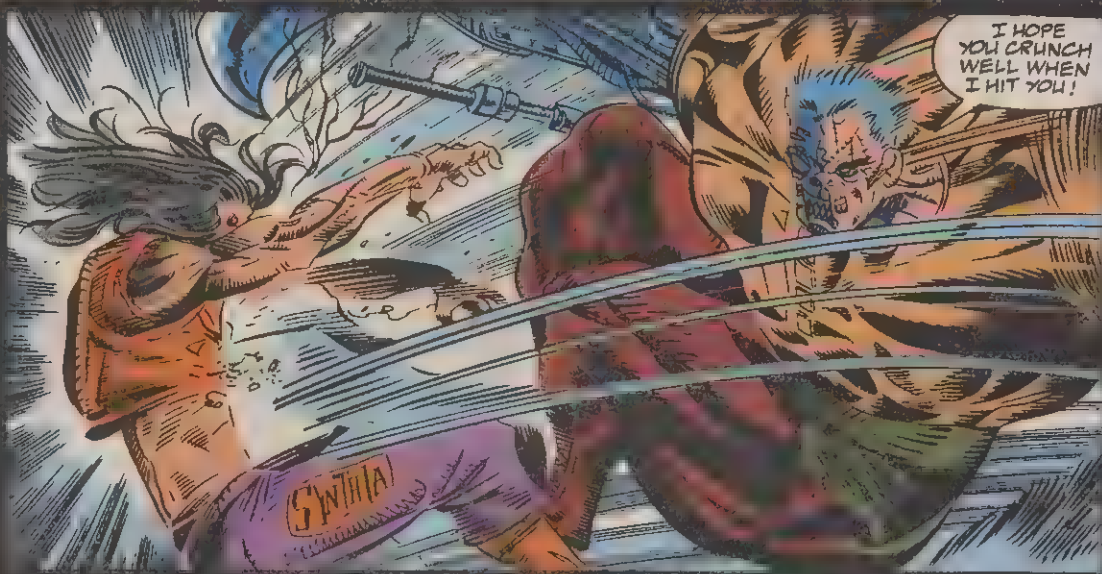
HE SAYS IF I RIP 'EM
UP A LITTLE, IT'LL
PLUCK THE PUNISHER'S
BLEEDING HEARTSTRINGS.



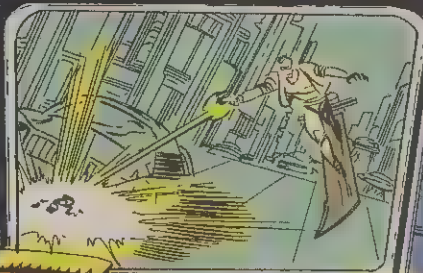
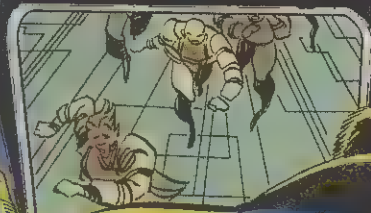
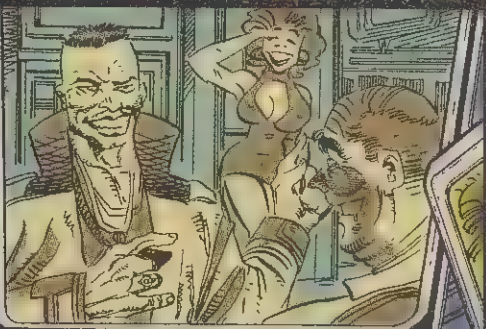
AUTO-COMMUNITY
GATHER! DEFEND
YOURSELVES!
ARMED RAID
IMMINENT!



THAT'S WHAT I LIKE...
WE ALL KNOW WHAT WE'RE
DOING HERE... NO DISCUS-
SION... YOU'RE MY KIND OF
PEOPLE...

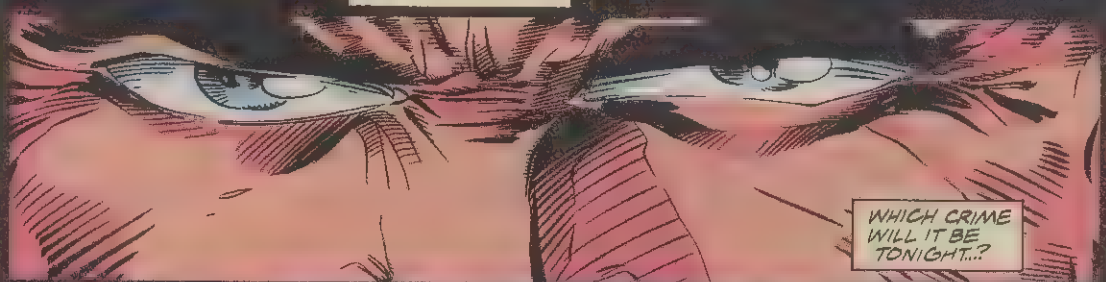


SO MANY CRIMES...SO
MANY INNOCENT
VICTIMS...SO MANY
DESERVING
PUNISHMENT...



THERE'S ONLY ONE
OF ME... YET I WANT
TO BRING THEM ALL
DOWN...

EVERY NIGHT I
GO OUT AND BRING
JUSTICE TO THIS
SICK CITY...

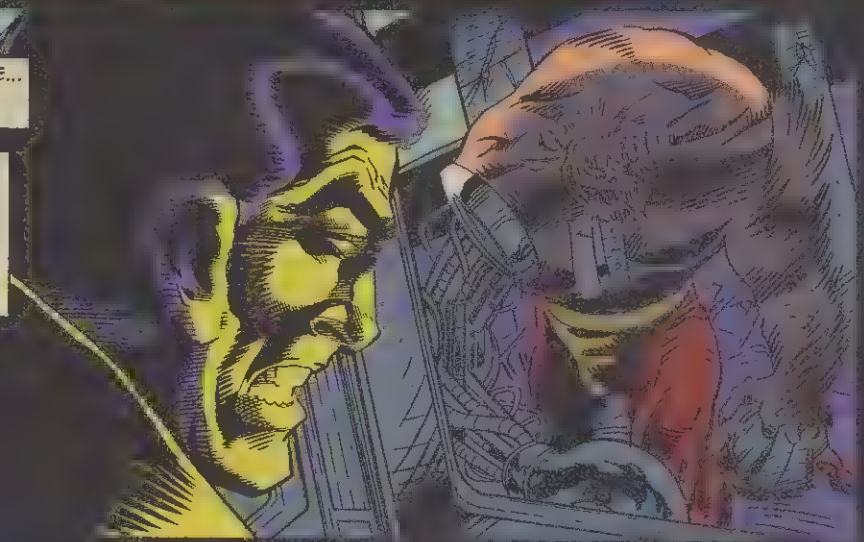


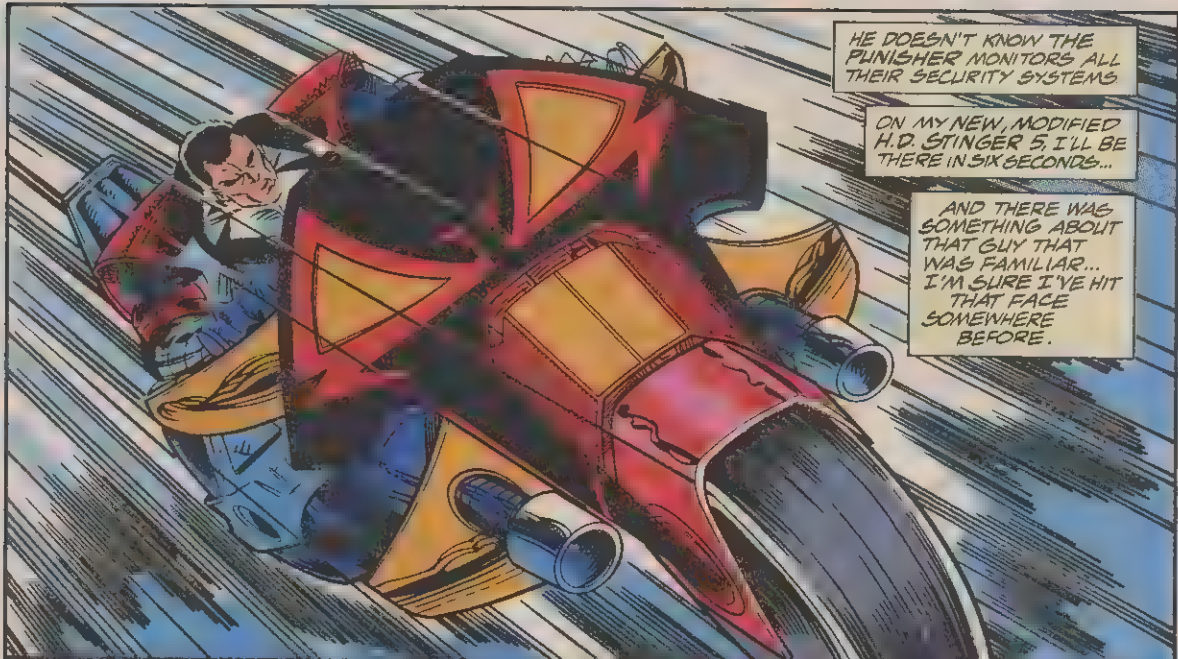
WHICH CRIME
WILL IT BE
TONIGHT...?

AHA! HERE'S ONE...
PLAYING TO THE
CAMERA...

ARROGANT-- HE
THINKS IT'S ONLY
THE PUBLIC EYE
MONITORING IT...
AND THEY WON'T
CARE ABOUT
WRETCHED
DECEASED...

BUT I
CARE.

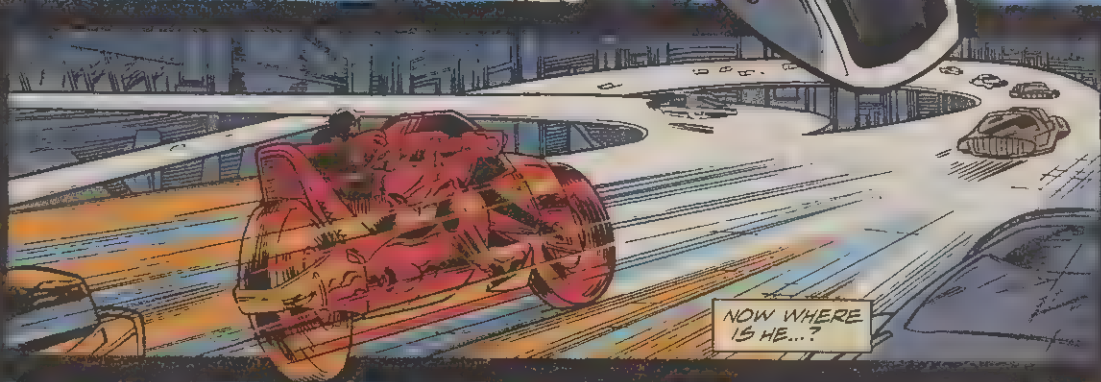




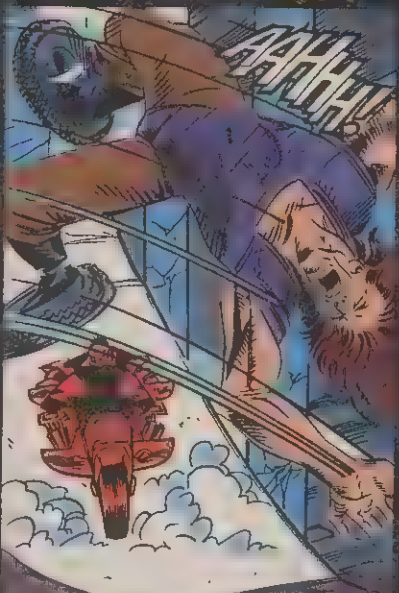
HE DOESN'T KNOW THE
PUNISHER MONITORS ALL
THEIR SECURITY SYSTEMS

ON MY NEW, MODIFIED
H.D. STINGER 5, I'LL BE
THERE IN SIX SECONDS...

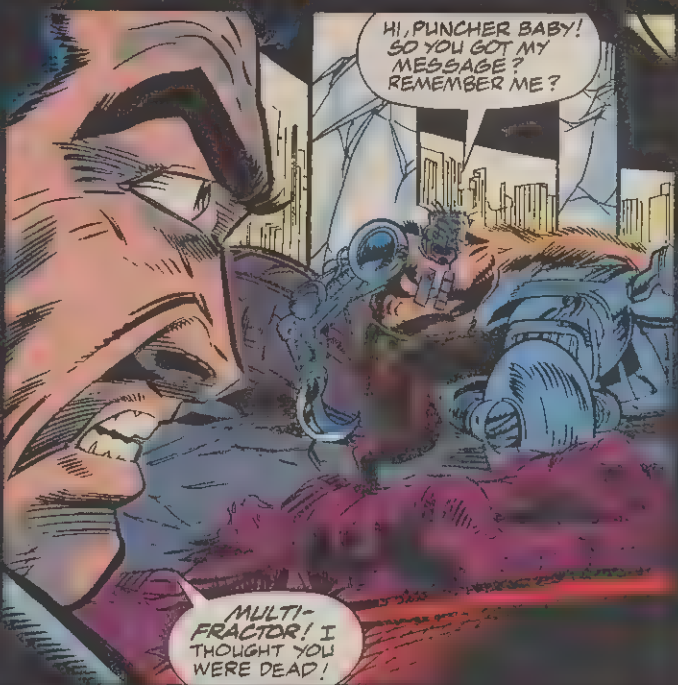
AND THERE WAS
SOMETHING ABOUT
THAT GUY THAT
WAS FAMILIAR...
I'M SURE I'VE HIT
THAT FACE
SOMEWHERE
BEFORE.



NOW WHERE
IS HE...?

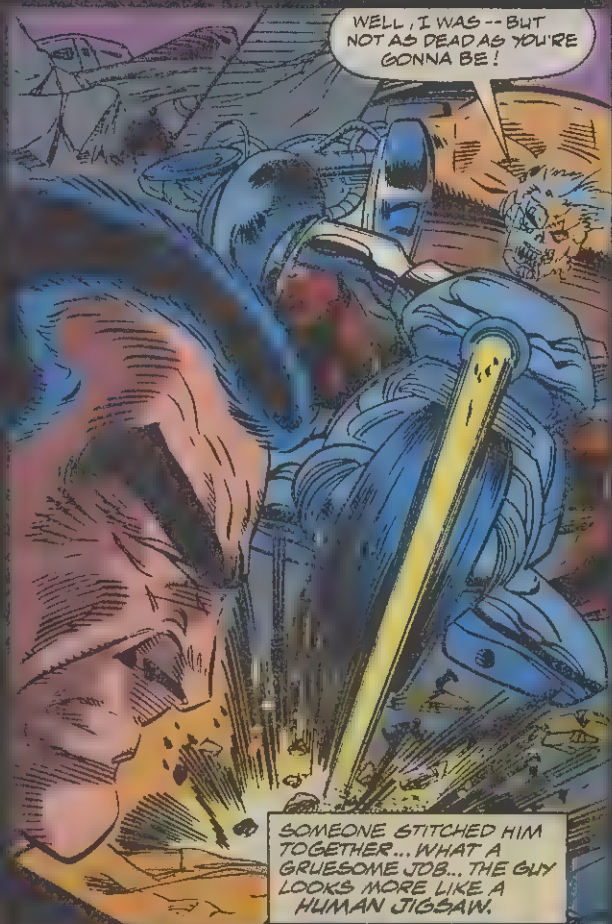


CLOSE BY THE
LOOK OF IT.



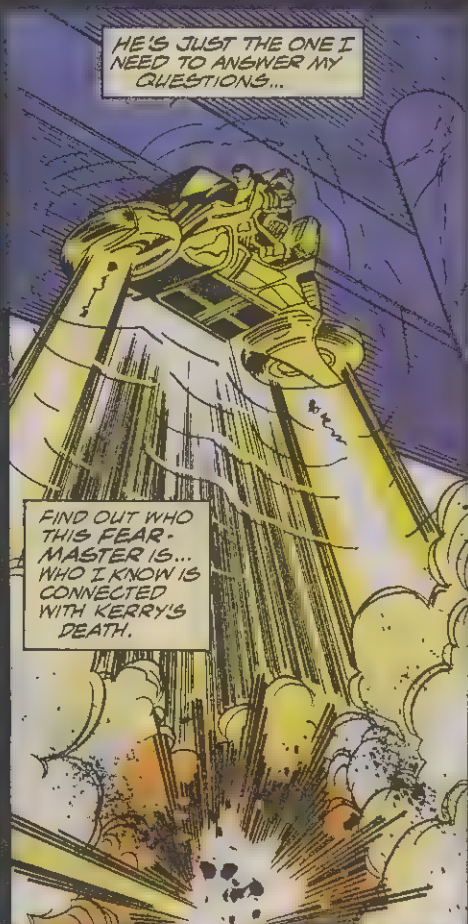
HI, PUNCHER BABY!
SO YOU GOT MY
MESSAGE?
REMEMBER ME?

MULTI-
FRACTOR! I
THOUGHT YOU
WERE DEAD!



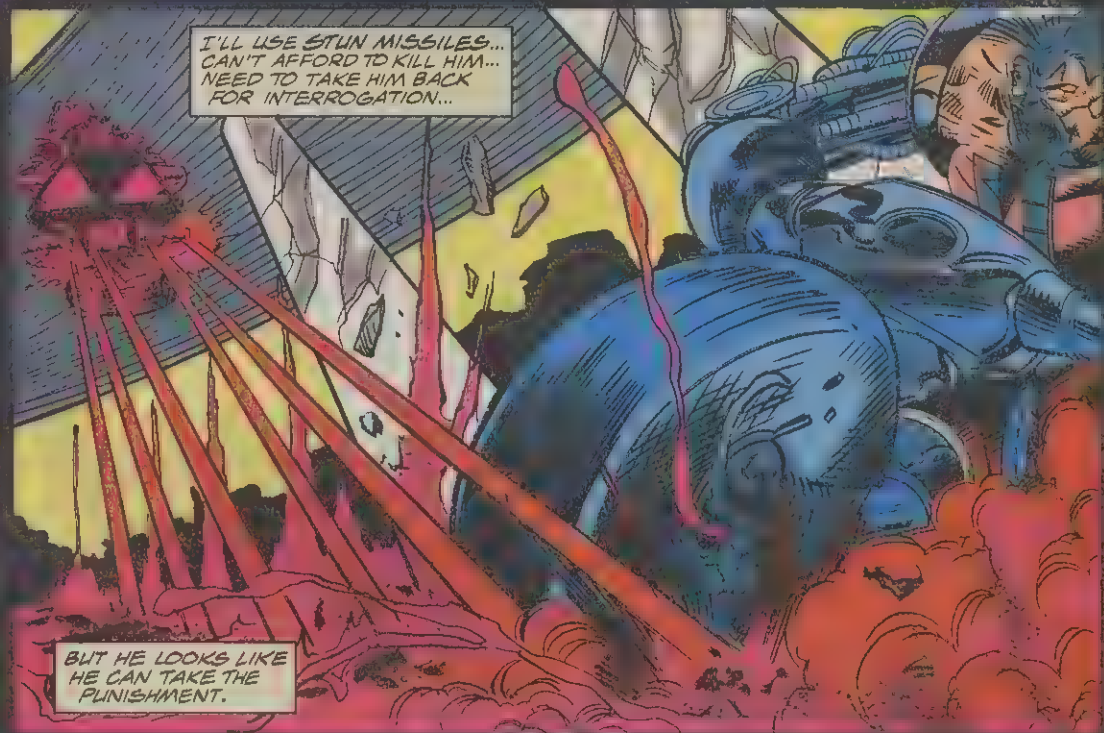
WELL, I WAS -- BUT
NOT AS DEAD AS YOU'RE
GONNA BE!

SOMEONE STITCHED HIM
TOGETHER... WHAT A
GRUESOME JOB... THE GUY
LOOKS MORE LIKE A
HUMAN JIGSAW.



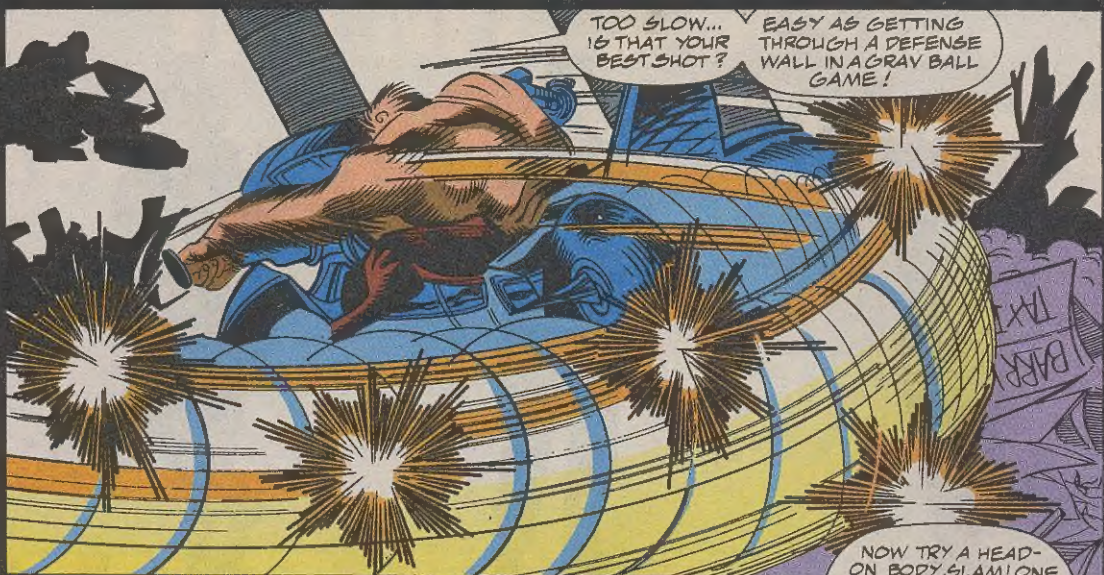
HE'S JUST THE ONE I
NEED TO ANSWER MY
QUESTIONS...

FIND OUT WHO
THIS FEAR-
MASTER IS...
WHO I KNOW IS
CONNECTED
WITH KERRY'S
DEATH.



I'LL USE STUN MISSILES...
CAN'T AFFORD TO KILL HIM...
NEED TO TAKE HIM BACK
FOR INTERROGATION...

BUT HE LOOKS LIKE
HE CAN TAKE THE
PUNISHMENT.



TOO SLOW...
IS THAT YOUR
BEST SHOT?

EASY AS GETTING
THROUGH A DEFENSE
WALL IN A GRAV BALL
GAME!

NOW TRY A HEAD-
ON BODY SLAM! ONE
OF MY FAVORITE
MOVES! IF YOU'VE
GOT WHAT IT
TAKES!



I'LL
SHOW YOU
WHAT I'VE
GOT!



NOT GOING TO WAIT
FOR THE CRASH...I'M
ITCHING TO GET MY
FISTS ON YOU...!

FEELING'S
MUTUAL! EVEN
AS I WAS
DYING, I
SWORE I'D
GET EVEN
WITH YOU!



EAT
FIST,
FREAK!



YOU CAN
GIVE IT! LET'S
SEE IF YOU
CAN TAKE
IT!

THOOM



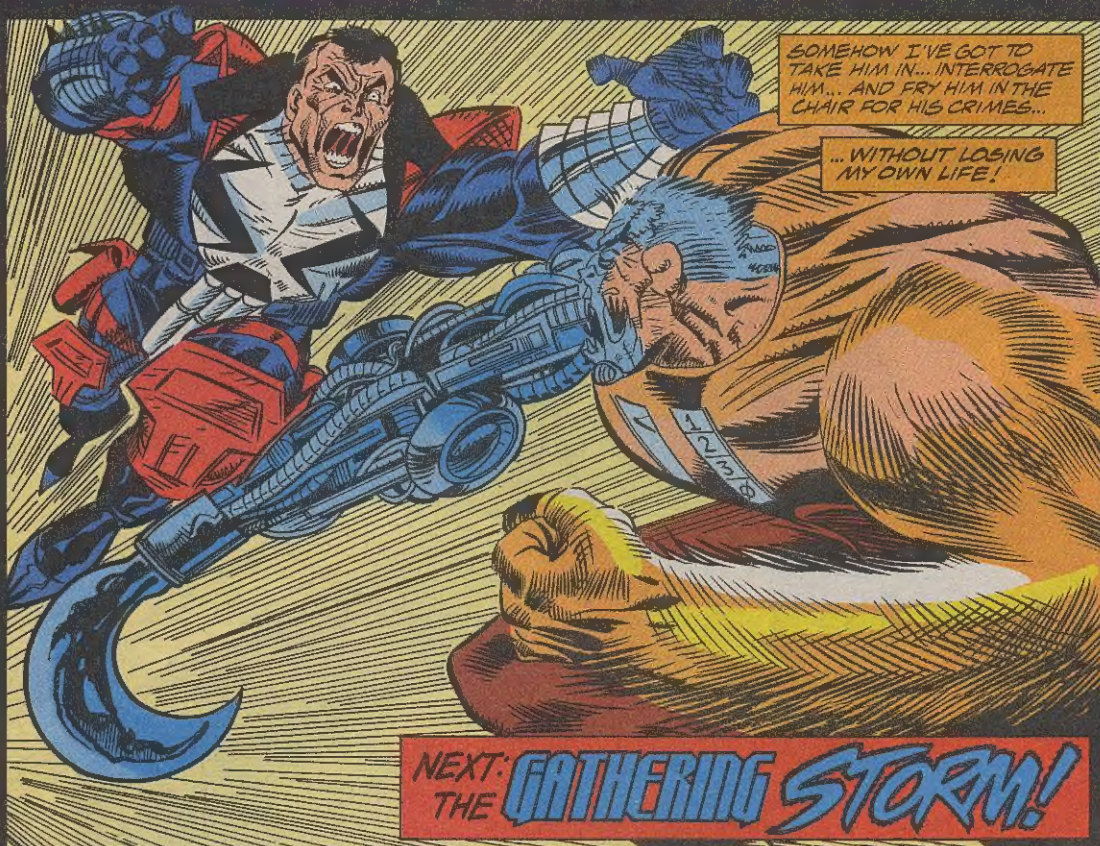
ONLY THE KINETIC
POWER DRAINS IN MY
EXO-SUIT SAVED MY
LIFE...

WHAT IS
THIS GUY
MADE OF...?



HE'S MADE
OF HATE...

BUT I DON'T
WANT A
REPLAY OF
LAST TIME...



SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO
TAKE HIM IN... INTERROGATE
HIM... AND FRY HIM IN THE
CHAIR FOR HIS CRIMES...

... WITHOUT LOSING
MY OWN LIFE!

NEXT: **GATHERING STORM!**

TARGET PRACTICE

Joey Cavallieri, Editor • Matthew Morra, Assistant Editor

c/o Marvel Comics • 387 Park Avenue South • New York, New York 10016

All letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will gladly withhold that info upon request.

Out Of My Head

My buddy Marco Lupoi was just here. He's the editor of the 2099 books...in Italy.

He told me that the 2099 books are wildly successful there, far outstripping the competition. In fact, a comic called 2099 #0, a compilation of the first issues of SPIDEY 2099, RAVAGE 2099, DOOM 2099 and this magazine, completely sold out! Marco tells me that it's the first Marvel Comic to sell out that way!

2099...We think locally, but we're a hit globally!

Dear Target Practice,

PUNISHER 2099 is the best series ever done by Marvel! The artists and writers do an excellent job.

What happens to Jake and Kerry? Will Jake destroy the Fearmaster or will the Fearmaster kill Kerry?

Will Jake give up being the Punisher of the 21st century?

If Kerry is killed by the Fearmaster, will Jake seek revenge on the Fearmaster or will he give it all up and say, "Kerry would have wanted me to give up being the Punisher"?

What the shock is it with all my questions?

I look forward to reading PUNISHER 2099 #9, and the crossover in December.

John Betros
200 Manchester
Boca Raton, FL 33487

And we've pretty much answered most of your questions this issue and last, John!

Dear Target Practice,

It was only a month ago that I got hooked on PUNISHER 2099. I was looking for an X-MEN comic when I saw PUNISHER 2099 #1. I picked it up and decided to buy it, and I'm glad I did!

It was great. The artwork is fantastic, the storylines are awesome and Jake's high-tech toys are mega-cool. So far I have six issues of your book and I am still looking for the two I have missed.

In issue #8, Jake said that he has only one job to finish and that is to check out the link between the Cyber-Nostra and Alchemax. After knowing who the bad guys really are, he and Kerry would leave their jobs in the Public Eye, start a new life and forget about the Punisher. Now my question is, would he really do it? Will Jake really end the punishment business?

PUNISHER 2099 is one of the best and I'll continue reading until Professor X grows hair on his head.

John D. Barbon
Topacio St.
Imus, Cavite
Philippines 4103

There's no Minoxidil in Prof. X's future, so you're stuck with us...and apparently, so's Jake. As you saw, Jake only returned to his "business" with a new resolve!

Dear Joey and Matt,

There is something almost too perfect about PUNISHER 2099. I mean, I hate the original Punisher! I gave up on him after issue #9 of his own series back in 1988. When the 2099 titles were announced, I was extremely eager to explore this new universe. But when I heard the Punisher would be part of the 2099 starting titles, I immediately cast it as a failure. I was wrong.

Jake is different. Jake lives with one foot in danger and one foot in love. There is a tension in him that I haven't seen in comics in a long time.

The main reason I'm writing is, like I said, that it's almost too perfect. I'm afraid you are on the verge of ruining this book! Issue #8 was brilliant. It showed us the fine line between love and hate. Jake knows Duke is a criminal but lets him go anyway because he sees good in his eyes. Jake definitely has a paradoxical quality to his character, and that's good: it makes for interesting reading.

Jake knows the evil of his 2099 world, but also the good that's in Kerry Downen. Issue #8 left me with a bad impression that you are going to kill her. Please don't! It would be a tragic mistake that could ruin the book.

When Jake looks into Kerry's eyes, he sees salvation. She is the one person who could prompt him to give up being the Punisher. If they start a new life together you wouldn't have a PUNISHER 2099 but a Jake & Kerry 2099, which is hardly where I think you're taking this title! So how about a compromise? Like maybe a Punisherette?

You have an excellent title. I frequent many comic book stores in this big city of Chicago and the fact that I can talk with fans and retailers about PUNISHER 2099 demonstrates to me great popularity and interest in your title. You've done a great job, so please don't kill Kerry.

Brendan Walsh
1501 W. Hood Ave.
Chicago, IL 60660

Uh-oh.

Dear Target Practice,

This comic is an interesting twist on the Punisher in that he's an entirely different person than Frank Castle. The concept of Frank Castle as the Punisher is almost completely lost. Now that we know he dies, I strongly believe that should be shown.

But there's a problem in this series. There are many similarities between Jake Gallows and Frank Castle, but little relationship. If something isn't done about this, you might think about changing your title to Jake Gallows 2099, or something else that doesn't imply a relationship to the Punisher of the present.

Jake's relationship with Kerry started out really well, but in issue #8, they got kinda cheesy: "You're a natural," "Yep, it's all me." They sounded like a pair of plastic women in a Beverly Hills reconstruction clinic.

Come on, guys, you can do better! This comic roared to a start, but now it seems as if someone's slamming on the brakes. Please take this as constructive criticism, not a complaint. Thank you.

Rich Lashua
7679 Glenbrook Ct.
Pleasanton, CA 94588

GALLOWS 2099, eh? Hmmmm...

Dear Sirs,

I had become a huge fan of PUNISHER 2099 until you gave him a girlfriend. Jake Gallows was twice as intense and focused on the war as Frank Castle. But you decided to give him a girlfriend, so I in return have decided to quit buying PUNISHER 2099. The Punisher is supposed to be an individual, a driven loner who doesn't have any relationships. So, if things don't change, this comic has lost a fan.

Anthony Spencer
66 Lakota Ave.
Akron, OH 44319

You satisfied now, Anthony?

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #14 *The mysterious Net Prophet joins Spidey as they go on a tail-kicking tour of Downtown!*

RAVAGE 2099 #12 *More of "The Nature of the Beast" is revealed...and we haven't forgotten about Tiana, who's heading for a major transformation!*

DOOM 2099 #11 *Xandra witnesses the rebirth of Thandaza, but is he the rightful ruler of Wakanda, or will Doom take the throne?*

X-MEN 2099 #2 *The Ratpack wants to clean up Vegas, of mutants, that is, in "Synge City Blues!"*

2099 UNLIMITED #2 *If you haven't seen the Hulk 2099 yet, what are you waiting for? Plus, nothing'll prepare you for R-Gang 2099!*

NEXT ISSUE

The Fearmaster, Jigsaw 2099, Balder, Avattarr and the city of Valhalla! No wonder we call it... "The Gathering Storm!"